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KING'S SWEET POTATO PIE	9 INCH 26 oz. size	$2.29
KING'S FRENCH BREAD	16 oz. loaf	69¢
OLD FASHION KING'S BREAD	2 16 oz. lvs.	99¢
THOMAS ENGLISH MUFFINS	12's	$1.59

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YOUR CHOICE-Potato, Macaroni & Cole Slow SALADS		.59¢
W/MUSTARD, ONIONS, CHILI, COLE SLAW HOT DOGS	4 FOR	$1.00
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TIMES-VIRGINIAN

A LIVELY WEEKLY NEWSPAPER AT HISTORIC APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE, VIRGINIA

SINGLE COPY PRICE - 20c

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JAN1981

Attendance plan successful so far: work needed

A program for improving school attendance in Appomattox County has been relatively successful thus far this year, according to Lloyd Walton, superintendent of schools.

The program, which was launched last summer, includes new school-attendance policies, as well as programs to encourage students to attend school on a regular basis.

"There has been an overall improvement in the percentage of attendance this year by approximately two percent for the county as a whole," according to Walton. "But, while these attendance figures are better than last year, it still is concerns us that there was only 91.5 percent attendance at the high school in the month of December.

The attendance percentage at the high school has fallen at a steady flow-rate since school began in September. The first month of school, September, there was a 94.47 percent attendance at the high school. In October, the percentage figure fell to an even 94 percent. In November, the figure fell again to 92.2 percent, and last month, at the end of December, the figure was tabulated at 91.5 percent average attendance at the high school.

While there have been similar declines in the other county school divisions, none of the attendance-percentage declines has been as steady as the high school's.

Still, the attendance figures for this school year have been better overall than those of last year.

The emphasis put on attendance by the school board, the parents, and the students themselves has brought about this improvement," Walton says.

Walton adds that the schools' personnel are working closely with the local Juvenile-Domestic Relations court officials, as well as with officials of other state agencies in cases where particular students have exceptionally poor attendance records.

This and other approaches to the attendance problem have been used, and will be used more as the school year advances, according to Walton.

"referrals will be made to the JDR Court when school officials feel their efforts to bring about improvement in attendance have not succeeded," Walton notes.

Such action would be preceded by a letter to the parents of the students, explaining the reasons for contacting the JDR Court Service and outlining the student's attendance record.

"It's the student's main responsibility to attend school regularly, and to put forth his or her best efforts while in school," Walton notes. "The schools are not trying to be antagonistic to the parents or students, it's just that we feel it's our responsibility to see that the student takes advantage of every opportunity available to them."

For now, Walton notes that there will be no alternation in the attendance-improvement plan originally outlined last summer. "We will continue our efforts as originally planned, and we will intensify those efforts where necessary," he says.

AS OF PRESS TIME Tuesday, official word from Washington was that the U. S. hostages in Iran had been released and were on their way to medical examinations and eventual return home, in keeping with much of the nation, Becky Johnson of Appomattox, "tied a yellow ribbon 'round the old oak tree" in her front yard in excitement of the 52 hostages' leaving Iran. "These people and their families have been in my prayers each day, and we all thank the Lord that they're finally coming home," she said Tuesday. In Pamplin, workers in the Amelia Garment Company were a yellow ribbon in celebration of and gratitude for the safe return of the hostages. According to a spokesman from the factory, it began with one or two workers tying on a yellow ribbon.....soon everybody in the plant was sporting a yellow ribbon. Everybody's giving thanks!!

CALVIN TOLLEY, a 56-year-old Pamplin native, is shown with a portrait of ex-president Jimmy Carter which he will present to Carter's mother as a Mothers Day present. Tolley, who has been painting since his pre-teen days, says he hopes to do a portrait of the new president, Ronald Regan.

Man's hobby is profession

By BILL SHERROD

Calvin Tolley's approach to life is simple: "If you want something badly enough, and you really believe you can do it, then you can."

Thats the philosophy the Pamplin native has followed throughout his 56 years and down the many roads his life as an artist has taken him.

Tolley, who lived in Florida from 1959 until this past Christmas, was in Pamplin recently putting the finishing touches on a painting of former president Jimmy Carter which will be a Mother's Day gift for Lillien Carter, the ex-president's mother.

"I've been painting and drawing as far back as I can remember," says Tolley. His mother, Carolyn Tolley, recalls with a smile the times she'd to "burn up his bottom" as a young boy for drawing pictures of Popeye, Little Orphan Annie and other popular artonn characters on the walls and floor of their home.

At age 8, Tolley had his first professional job, when he sold a painting for $10. After that he began doing some artwork for the school in Pamplin, for which he got paid.

Tolley says he has no particular favorite subject for his art. "I like to do animals, people, landscapes, still lifes, you name it." He also has no preferance regarding methods. "I like watercolors as much as oils when I'm painting."

While drawing and painting have nearly always been a favorite hobby, it was at age 15 that Tolley decided to make a career of it.

"The more I painted and drew, the more I like it," says Tolley. "I guess you could say I'm in another world when I paint. I just forget everything around me, and get totally involved in what I'm doing."

Tolley's artistic tendencies extend into the fields of poetry and music, as well as painting. While living in Florida, he was in a nightclub band, and he enjoys dabbling in poetry from time to time.

"There's so much beauty in the world, and so often, people don't take the time to slow down and appreciate it. I guess that's what the artist is for. I try to take the beauty I see, and put it down on canvas so others can see it too."

While Tolley has no preference for subjects or methods in his painting, he does prefer realism as opposed to abstract art. "I simply don't care for abstract work," he says.

Throughout his years in Florida, Tolley always retained a warmth for his hometown in Central Virginia.

"I love to remember how things were when I was young," he says. His mother points out that Calvin's father, Willie J. Tolley was a barber. "We paid for his house with what he made giving haircuts for a quarter and shaves for fifteen cents. She adds with delight that Calvin used to give shoe shines for a nickle, "had to keep my girlfriends in candy," he laughs.

Calvin, en enterpriser even at eight, says he used to get up at 5 a.m. and go to work at the grocery store of Hurley Davis for a nickle an hour.

"He just thought he was the richest thing in the world," says his mother.

Tolley returned to Pamplin just before Christmas last year, following the death of his father. I decided to come back and live with my mother, but I'll be back to Florida from time to time to visit friends," he says.

Tolley has already painted the portraits of Presidents Roosevelts, Eisenhower, Johnson and Nixon, and hopes to do a portrait of President Regan upon completion of the Carter painting.

And, somewhere down the line, he hopes to begin work on a painting of the Judgement Day, a scene that he says came to him several times while in a Florida hospital receiving treatment for throat cancer. "It was a frightening scene," he notes, "one that, would have to be a very large painting, I'd like to paint it and give it to Billy Graham or one of the other evangelists."

But for now, Tolley will finish the several paintings he is currently working on.

"My only 'rule' when it comes to painting," he concludes, "is that I try to make everypaint-ing better than the one I did before. That way I can always strive for excellence and for improvement."

Father Darkleaf

By CALVIN ROBINSON

Birthdays of many famed people are observed in January. Robert E. Lee, the 19th; Stonewall Jackson, the 21st; Matthew Fontaine Maury the 14th. Gen. James Longstreet, the 8th; Edgar Allen Poe, the 19th.; Gen George E. Pickett, Jan. 25th, etc. Plus many of more recent fame. I remarked to a lady that January was a great birthday month and her reply was that she was born in February. So we will say that any month is a good birthday month and we salute those family members who keep track of birth dates. Listed above was Matthew F. Maury, and a little footnote to history. Cyrus W. Field was speaking at a banquet in New York honoring the laying of the Atlantic Cable. He said, "Maury furnished the brains, England gave the money, and I did the work."

* * *

General opinion is that it will require an awesome lot of rain or melted snow to overcome the dry condition of topsoil.

* * *

What school is considered to be in the number one athletic rival of ACHS? I wouldn't know. Used to be Amherst or Bedford. But leagues have been rearranged and I would say that a healthy rivalry is developing with Buckingham H.S.

* * *

There has been just enough accumulation of snow to inspire making a snowman. Have seen three in my part of town.

* * *

There is a small community in Florida where lots of tourists stop for sduvenirs. It's name....Two Egg.

Winter weather has struck in areas not accustomed to it. Florida for example. Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Jamerson, of Appomattox and my longtime friends, were in The Sunshine State recently. Brought Brightleaf some citrus fruit, including the largest orange I ever saw. Also some newspapers collected en route, such as Sentinel Star, of Orlando; Daytona Beach Morning Journal and the Columbia, S.C. The State. Thanks.

* * *

Tommy Bass used to live on Martha Street but I had not seen him for some years. Came by for a pleasant visit during the week. He is now employed in Appomattox and Mr. and Mrs. Bass are the parents of a three and a half year old son. Tommy came by for a look at my electric train lay-out, which he remembered from the days when I had lots of em running in my basement. He is a model train hobbyist and is working on a lay-out. I have neglected to keep my model trains operational and it would take a lot of work to get it all going. But I repeat my belief in hobbies. What's yours?

* * *

Speaking of high school sports rivalries, I noted that Maury High School of Norfolk and Wilson High School of Portsmouth had a 62-55 basketball game. Ah yes, I graduated from Wilson High and Maury was our top sports rival and it must be one of the state's oldest.

* * *

And I salute the great basketball team of the University of Virginia, now ranked No. 2 among the nation's college basketball teams. The Cavaliers manage to win the close ones and we hope they scan the heights and end up No. One.

* * *

Wrap-up ... winter feeding of small birds is a good thing. As I write, six are having a banquet at my windowside feeder. Thanks for reading and seeya around.

Six-year division plan aims at quality

By FRANCES H. PAULETTE

In order to provide quality education in any given locality, it is necessry to do more than secure qualified teachers and set them up in modern facilities.

A tremendous amount of thought, planning and hard work on the part of county school officials, school personnel and parents is necessary before the needs of the community can be evaluated and met in a way that provides the best opportunities for learning.

The Appomattox County School Board, consisting of Dr. A. A. Fratrick, Chairman; Mrs. Ruth Webb, Vice Chairman; Mr. J. Berkley Drinkard, Jr.; Mr. Robert G. Stewart; and Mr. Lloyd Walton, Superintendent, meeting in regular session last week, adopted the Annual and Six-Year Division Plans for 1981-1987.

It was on September 9, 1980, that the Appomattox County School Board appointed the Central Planning Council for 1980-81. Members serve a three-year term, with one-third of the membership rotating off each year. The membership of the council includes the P.T.A. president of each school; the principal of each school, school board chairman, director of vocational education, general supervisor, sixteen parents, six techers, the president of the Appomattox County Education Association and the division superintendent.

The first meeting of the council was on Monday, Sept. 29, 1980. Members of the council made recommendations in writing to the superintendent by Oct. 15; school principals discussed the six-year plan with each faculty and asked members to submit recommendations. The superintendent compiled recommendations and submitted the list to council members.

At an October meeting recommendations were reviewed and the main objectives to be included in the plan were agreed upon.

A tentative document including objectives and strategies was reviewed by the Central Planning Council on December 1. The school board received a revised draft of the plan on December 11; it was reviewed and changes as determined necessary were made and the document was approved at the regular January 1981 board meeting.

Council will continue to meet on a regular schedule to review progress of the school system toward achievement of objectives.

The Appomattox County School Board and school personnel are not only interested in providing the best in education to youth of this county, they are interested in what happens following graduation. So interested, in fact, they conduct a follow-up study to determine the status of students who graduated at the end of the previous year.

Beginning with the 1980-81 school session, the school division will complete by February 1 a follow-up study of students who graduated at the end of the second preceding year. This study will provide information to the school system regarding the status of the graduates and the strong points and weaknesses of the high school curriculum as evaluated by the graduates.

Projected enrollment is one factor to be taken into consideration when making long-range plans for education.

Student enrollment in Appomattox County was 2373 in 1971-72. By the 1975-76 session it had increased to 2850. In 1976-77 the enrollment remained at 2850. When the 1977-78 session had rolled around, the enrollment had decreased to 2823 students. This decline has continued each year resulting in an enrollment in 1980-81 of 2692 students.

Based on available information, student enrollment is projected to continue a steady decline through 1990. By 1990 it is projected that the student enrollment in the division will be approximately 2200. This will be a decrease of 479 students from 1980-81 through 1989-90.

Present facilities in the Appomattox County School System are fully utilized and the projected enrollment decline will allow for flexibility in providing space for various programs and activities. Emphasis will be on improving present facilities through renovation.

Since many of the demands for a school division created by an increased enrollment are not expected to exist, emphasis during the next decade will be on improving the quality of the education program and revising the curriculum as deemed necessary to meet the needs of an ever-changing society and student population. Therefore, the six-year division plans will be the means for improving the educational system and for managing changes which will inevitably occur.

LAURIE COWAN, a student at Appomattox County High School, recently took top honors in the State of Virginia's 4-H Egg Grading Competition, and as the state's best won an all-expensed trip to the Southeastern Poultry and Egg Convention in Atlanta, Ga. Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. She and a group of other state students will be accompanied by Shirley Walton, local VPI extension agent, and Ms. Joan Hager, extension specialist in poultry science at VPI.

Lions meet tonight

The Appomattox Lions Club will meet on Thursday evening, January 22 at Maude's Restaurant at 6:45.

Following dinner, David Marshall with Dean Whittiar Rentals, Inc., Richmond will present a program on Stocks, Bonds, Investments in 1981.

All members are urged to attend.

Delivery time clarified

The new printing schedule of the Times-Virginian has met with favorable response from the readers and advertisers of the newspaper, according to a spokesman for the paper.

However, there has been some misunderstanding as to the time at which the newspaper will hit the newsstands each week.

The paper will be printed each week in Farmville at 4:30 p.m., and will be back in Appomatox at approximately 6 p.m. each Tuesday night.

Thus, Times-Virginian readers can pick up their newsstand copies of the paper at any newstand which is open after 6 p.m. Tuesday nights.

Mail-subscribers copies of the paper will be delivered to the local post office by 6 a.m. Wednesday, in order that the subscribers will be able to receive their papers on Wednesday.

Deadline for all news copy, display advertising copy, and classified advertising copy is 3 p.m. Monday the week of publication.

Persons with information to be published in the paper are encouraged to get their copy into the Times-Virginian office on Court Street as early as possible before the date of publication, preferrably on Friday.

Business licenses are due

Ida H. Campbell, Appomattox County Treasurer, reminds taxpayers that 1981 Dog Tags and Business License are due by January 31.

The treasurer's office will be open on Saturday, January 31 from 9 a.m. until 12 noon for the convenience of taxpayers.